

# NEW JERSEY EXONUMIA SOCIETY

APR. MAY. JUNE. 2008  
ISSUE # 129

## "JERSEYANA"



**NAMED BEFORE IT WAS OFFICIALLY  
DESIGNATED THE  
GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE.**

How many of you knew that ?

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### WRITE OR EMAIL ANYTIME

WE ARE HERE TO HELP THE MEMBERS & CLUB IN ANYWAY WE CAN.

### ADVERTISING RATES

FULL PAGE----- \$10.00  
HALF PAGE----- \$5.00  
QUARTER PAGE----- \$3.00  
BUSINESS CARD - 1 TIME----- \$2.00  
BUSINESS CARD - 6 TIMES----- \$10.00

### CLASSIFIED ADS & ARTICLES

ARE FREE TO ALL MEMBERS UP TO 50 WORDS PER AD AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO  
TRADE, BUY OR SELL. SEND TO THE EDITOR OR EMAIL THEM.

### MEMBERSHIP

DUES IS \$8.00 PER YEAR & RUNS FROM JAN. TO JAN. (4-ISSUES) - JUNIOR (UNDER 18) \$5  
WILL RECEIVE THEIR OWN "JERSEYANA"

### ENCASED CENT UPDATE

TWO NEWS ONE TO REPORT

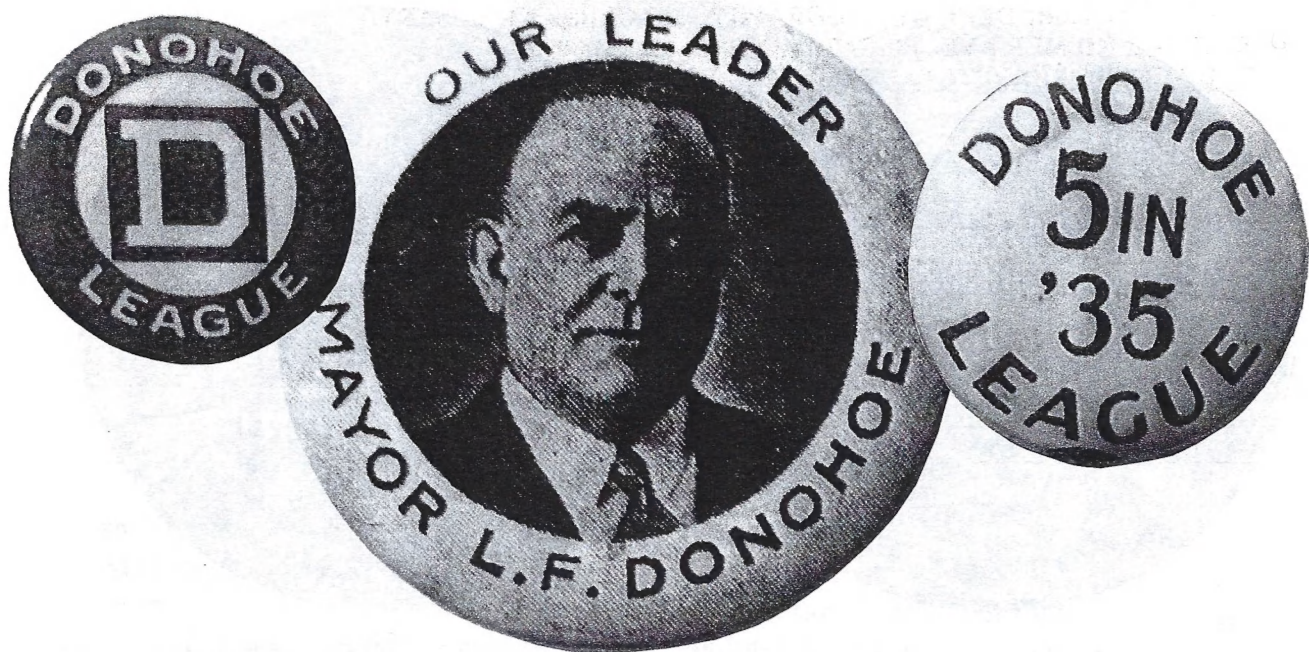
SCHUMACHER-FRICKE CHEVROLET, 8 MAIN ST. LITTLE FALLS, N.J. 1948¢, RD.

JACOBS, HARDWARE, CO. Bergen Place &, Shrewsbury Ave., Red Bank, N.J.  
JACOBS, HARDWARE CO., Free Delivery, Shadyside, 7-3654 1961D¢, HS. Plastic





**LUCIUS F. DONOHUE SERVED AS BAYONNE'S MAYOR FROM AROUND 1931 TO 1939.**



#### A NOTE

Hospitalization and recovery at home provide wonderful opportunities to catch up with one's reading. I especially enjoyed Rich Bottles Jr.'s "Encased in Celluloid Buttons," which appeared in Numismatist in October, 2007. Mr. Bottles describes the Baltimore Badge & Novelty Company adapting its celluloid buttons to hold Indian Head cents as "lucky coins." He especially focuses on Western Pennsylvania issuers and talks about individuals, businesses and locations. This, of course, is what makes tokens inherently interesting - the link to actual people and locations. I enjoyed reading about the individuals but toward the end of the section came across the product of a small time jeweler, Lewis J. Seleznick. It turns out that he drops an "e" to become "Selznick," becomes fascinated with a nearby nickelodeon and goes into business with another Pittsburgh merchant, Harry Warner. They formed the World Film Corporation in 1915. Where? Fort Lee, New Jersey, "considered America's first movie capital." See, I got Jersey into it! Ultimately, weather becoming a determining factor - Hollywood!

**Pete**



NEW JERSEY EXONUMIA - The ad appeared in the 1907 listing of the Hoboken Members of the Board of Trade. The token was made by Greenduck Co. Chicago.



CABLE ADDRESS STENECK

ESTABLISHED 1866

TELEPHONE CALL 48 & 44

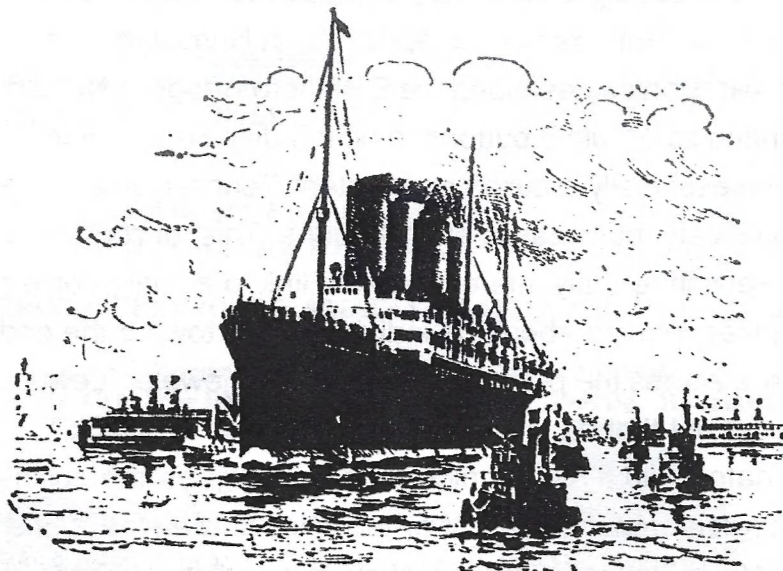
## JOHN STENECK & SONS

General Passenger and Steamship Ticket Office

Letters of  
Credit  
Issued.

Drafts,  
Travellers  
Checks  
and Cable  
Payments

Foreign  
Money  
Bought  
and Sold.



U. S.  
Passports  
Procured.  
Money  
Orders  
Issued.  
Invest-  
ment  
Securities  
Bought  
and Sold.  
European  
 Collec-  
tions  
by Draft  
& Power of  
Attorney.

95 RIVER ST.-HOBOKEN, N. J.-222 RIVER ST.  
OPP. HAMBURG-AMERICAN & NORTH GERMAN LLOYD PIERS





Back in issue 117, I showed a Hard Rubber token from the Murphy Varnish Co., Newark, N.J. that sold for about \$160. on ebay. I didn't put 2&2 together until I saw the above Pin-Back Button (made by Whitehead & Hoag) and the Ad below. Murphy's father owned the company. However, it was Franklin, with one half interest in the company, who improved the recipe for the Varnish that made him a wealthy man. Franklin was a Republican and defeated James Seymour in 1901 to become a N.J. governor. gp

Transparent Wood Finish, \$3.00,  
is The Finest House Varnish  
ever made---and the cheapest.

**Why and How it is Cheap** It flows on easily and smoothly, with uniform thickness, leaving no ridges or lumps to sand-paper off; and no bare streaks to varnish over and over. It covers enough more surface, with enough less work, to make it *cost less by the job* than any varnish at \$2.50 or \$2.00.

"Transparent Wood Finish—Why and How"

See figures by leading painters in this Free Booklet. Send a postal for it.

Address us at 155 Chestnut St., Newark, N. J.

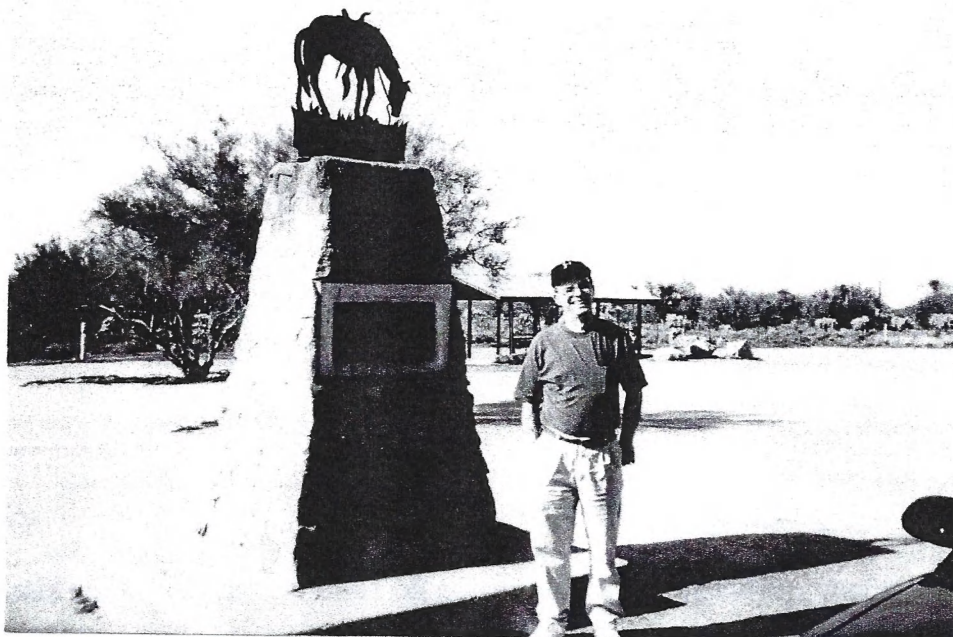
**Murphy Varnish Company** FRANKLIN MURPHY, President

Makers of THE VARNISH THAT LASTS LONGEST

Head Office: NEWARK, N. J. Also BOSTON CLEVELAND ST. LOUIS CHICAGO



On a trip to Arizona, traveling all over the back roads in the state, I ran across the marker where Tom Mix was killed in an auto accident. The token is very common. gp



**SAVE 50 EXHIBIT  
COUPONS**  
and get this beautiful

**GOOD LUCK  
POCKET PIECE**

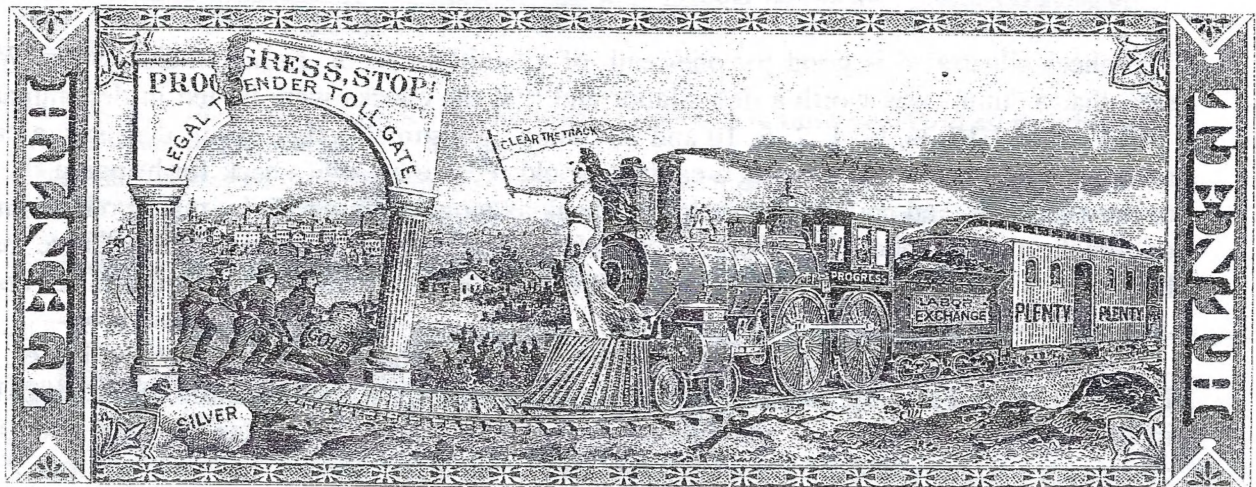
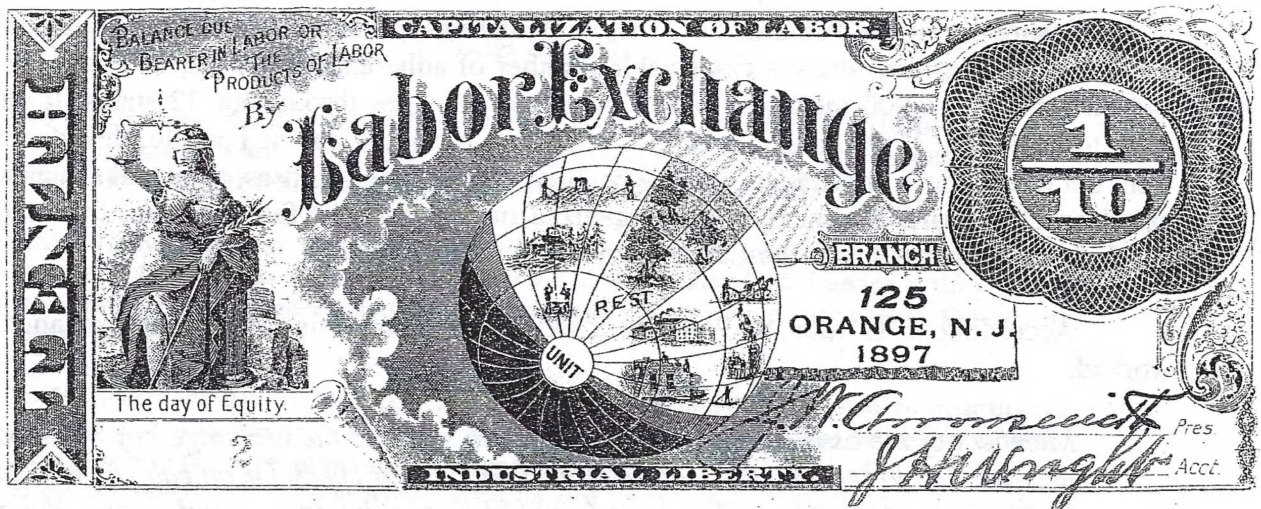


**DIRECTIONS**—Put your 50 Exhibit Coupons in an envelope, seal it up—write your name and address plainly on outside of envelope, then hand it to storekeeper where you bought the cards and he will have your Good Luck Pocket Piece ready for you in a few days.



**Put Penny in Slot. Push Slide all the Way In** **1¢** **Then Pull Out Slowly and Receive Card.**





Note of the Orange Branch 125 of the Labor Exchange (enlarged 1.3x)  
Valued at One-Tenth of a Unit of Labor

*Exonumia from Your Neighborhood*

## SCRIP OF AN 1890s UTOPIAN MOVEMENT

*David D. Gladfelter, NLG*

The so-called “gay nineties” was actually a period of economic hard times for American farmers and industrial workers. Employment shrank and credit became tight. Many turned to cooperative ventures as a way to make ends meet. They believed that through collective ownership and control, they could earn their living without having to rely on employers, financiers and middlemen to provide them with work. Mutual benefit, rather than profit, was to be the goal of the cooperative movement.

To pursue this goal, a Missouri farmer, Giovanni B. DeBernardi (1831-1901), organized the Labor Exchange in 1889 at Independence. DeBernardi, born in Italy, had lost most of his farm



to foreclosure during the Panic of 1873. Through lectures, promotional tracts and publication of a newspaper, DeBernardi drew a respectable number of adherents to his organization. By 1896 it had an estimated 6,000 members in 135 chartered branches throughout 32 states. It ultimately grew to more than 15,000 members in 311 branches, including one in Toronto, then declined and went out of existence after the turn of the century. (In Freedom, Kansas, an actual socialist colony based on DeBernardi's principles was organized on 160 acres of farmland, but this colony was not formally associated with the Labor Exchange.)

According to Gordon S. Watkins, a labor economist, this is how the exchange system worked:

*Members of the association were privileged to bring to the exchange any commodity they desired, and to receive payment in the form of a labor check for an equivalent value in the local wholesale market, where goods would be purchased at retail prices. Nonmembers could trade at the exchange either by use of labor checks or legal money.*

The check illustrated is good for one-tenth of a "unit" of labor. In his studies, Steve Whitfield says that a "unit" was worth a day's labor and that the checks were issued in denominations of 1/100, 1/20, 1/10, 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 5, 10 and 20 "units". Presumably that meant that, say, a carpenter member who spent a day making a cabinet would receive a 1-unit check for bringing the cabinet to the exchange, and could either hold the check as money or spend it by taking out commodities on which other members had worked an equivalent amount of time to produce. There may even have been a "shop book" for setting standard values for the commodities, but this is not known.

New Jersey had four Labor Exchange branches that are known to have issued checks: Branch 121 in Paterson, Branch 125 in Orange, Branch 159 in Trenton (Wait ##2317-2320 inclusive, 2320 is illustrated) and Branch 195 in Phillipsburg. The dates are 1896 and 1897; the designs are slightly different for the two dates, but both designs have interesting, if quaint, political slogans. All checks seen have a perforated edge at the left, suggesting that they may have been issued in books like coupons or tickets. They are on standard lithographed forms, with faces in brown and backs in green. The individual branch numbers, cities and dates of issue are overprinted in red.

Although the particular note illustrated above is unlisted in Wait, it has an impeccable New Jersey provenance. It once belonged to Charlie Nettleship, one of the founders of the New Jersey Numismatic Society. He had acquired it in 1938 from William T. Dolley, briefly a fellow NJNS member. In 1979 Nettleship sent it to Morristown Sunday Record columnist Harold Flartey along with Dolley's published inquiry to the editor of the old Newark Sunday Call. The editor said: "We fail to identify it. Can someone help?" Jerseyana to the rescue!

#### References

- Steve Whitfield, "G.B. DeBernardi and the Labor Exchange Movement." 37 Paper Money 147 (Sept/Oct 1998).  
Steve Whitfield, "Labor Exchange Scrip." 46 Paper Money 442 (Nov/Dec 2007).  
Waldo C. Moore, "The Labor Exchange Movement." 45 The Numismatist 495 (Aug. 1932).  
Gordon S. Watkins, An Introduction to the Study of Labor Problems. New York, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1922.  
Charlie Nettleship to Harold (Flartey), personal correspondence, December 27, 1979.  
R. M. Smythe & Co., The Herb and Martha Schingoethe Obsolete Currency Collection Part 9. New York, Dec. 2006.



## CLUB NEWS

We welcome new member Bob Miller, 233 Weed Ave., Staten Island, N.Y. 10306. Bob Collecting interests are 19<sup>th</sup> Century Tokens, Medals & Badges. You can email him at RKM 233 @ VERIZON.NET if you have anything he might be interested in.

GSNA Convention May 15, 16 & 17. We will have our annual meeting on Saturday – Time & Room will be posted at the convention. We will have another 50-50 drawing at the meeting. If we have enough members supporting our club the winner should have enough to buy a nice Token at the show.

50-50 Tickets are inside of the Jerseyana – We appreciate members who sent in their tickets last year and hope you will support the club again. The winner need not be present to win. Bring them to the show or out of state members mail them to the Editor – Cost is only \$1ea. If you need more just email or write the Editor and I'll see that you get them.

LAST ISSUE FOR THOSE WHO HASN'T PAID 2008 DUES. – As you know postage is going up again in May – CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL – If it has a Yellow marker on it your dues is due for 2008.

We only received one new FREE AD for this issue – If you wish to run a new AD (Last months AD's are still Good) please send them to the Editor.

Allegheny County Jail Paper coupon scrip (1¢, 2¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 40¢ \$1). They are listed as ZARA 1-7. My usual price is \$9.99. This is a NJES special at only \$5.00 + SASE. Optional Ins. + \$1.65 (Ins. recommended ). Steve Kawalec, P.O.B. 4281 Clifton, N.J. 07012, email at [owlprowler@aol.com](mailto:owlprowler@aol.com) or call 973-868-9258

Now THAT's New Jersey Exonumia

Pete Wacker

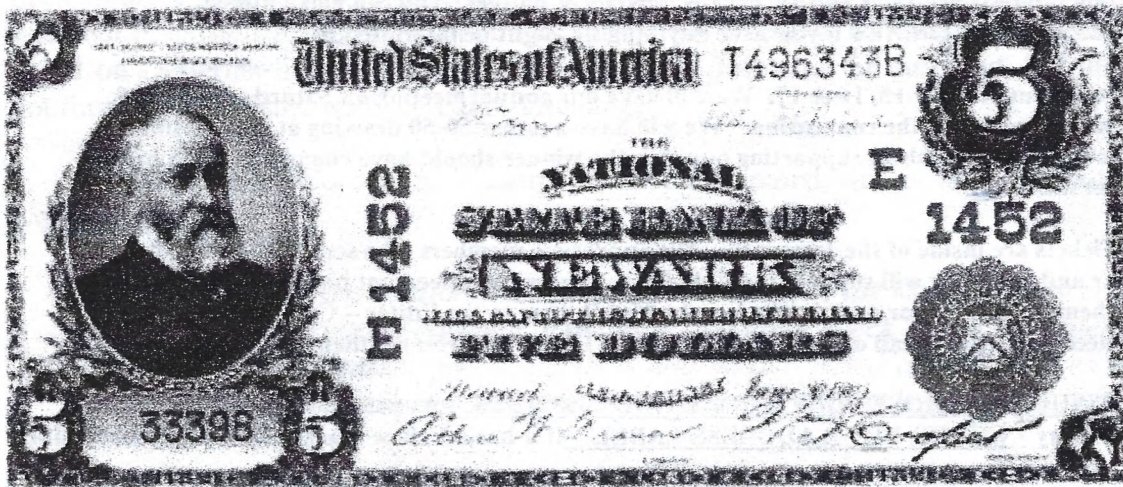
Missed getting your share of the Atocha's cargo? January 20th's Star Ledger carried a most interesting article concerning silver bars lost in the, of all places, Arthur Kill! In 1903 a barge holding nearly 8,000 silver bars listed and sank north of the present Outerbridge Crossing. Most of these bars were recovered but it is estimated that there are still 1,400 laying in the Arthur Kill. The silver was owned by the Guggenheims and are believed worth \$6,000-\$7,000 each. The paper gave no description of the bars but I imagine that, as today, there would be some identifier as to origin. And, no doubt, it is Jersey Stuff! Refined here from silver ore from the Guggenheims' holdings in South America. Aqua Survey, Inc., of Kingwood, N.J., using sophisticated equipment, is attempting to find the bars. One added note - Outerbridge CROSSING because it is named after a guy with the surname Outerbridge.

EMTON, NJ 086

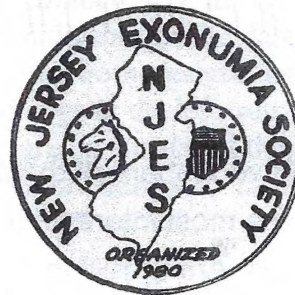
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LET US DARE TO READ,  
THINK, SPEAK AND WRITE.  
John Adams, 1765  
poweroftheletter.com

**THIS 1902 \$5 NATIONAL STATE BANK NOTE FROM NEWARK, N.J.  
IN EXTREMELY FINE SHAPE SOLD ON EBAY FOR \$381.**



**NEW JERSEY EXONUMIA SOCIETY  
10 - Fourth St.  
MANCHESTER, N.J. 08759**



**FIRST CLASS**

